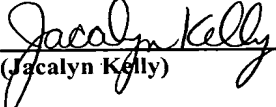


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Terry Frank Allen, et al. )  
For: METHOD FOR SPLICING A )  
CONVEYOR BELT )  
Serial No.: )  
Filed: )

Docket No. DN2002113D01  
Confirmation No.  
Art Unit:  
Examiner:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope label No. EL014691005US addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 13, 2004.

  
(Jacalyn Kelly)

1-13-04  
(Date of Signature)

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to the calculation and examination of the application, please enter the present Preliminary Amendment.